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MONDAY, MAY 4, 1908.

## Instruction of the Militia.

A new idea has been adopted, with the sanction of the War Department, in the State of Arkansas, where an able and experienced army officer, Maj. James K. Thompson, Sixthteenth Infantry, has suggested and developed for the benefit of the National Guard officers of that State a camp of instruction, which will be held for ten days during the latter part of this month. The system of imparting information of value in a practical way to militia officers might very well be extended to all States which have an organized militia, destined some day to be brought into active service as a part of the regular army. It is no disparagement of the militia to say that it needs just this sort of instruction, where the commissioned personnel of the National Guard may go into camp under the guidance of officers of the regular army and receive the training which can be given by personal attention to details with an opportunity of discussion. In the programme laid down by Maj. Thompson for the work at the Arkansas post it is not intended to waste any time with formal lectures by students of war. There is to be, instead, drilling of the officers as if they were enlisted men, with opportunities for each officer to exercise command, and so learn both kinds of duty under the surveillance of a trained soldier.

The National Guard officers should avail themselves to the utmost of this rare opportunity to acquire efficiency in the performance of their duties. Their adaptability to command in time of war will be consequently increased. They will be better understood the duties which will devolve upon them in an emergency, and there is no certainty that these results are insured by State encampments or by the joint maneuvers with the regular army, for which Congress has decided to appropriate \$1,000,000 for expenditure this summer.

A simple and cheap method of transforming natural gas into alcohol has been discovered. This is where Georgia and Alabama get it in the neck again. There is no natural gas in either State!

## Residences for Ambassadors.

An attempt was made, by a Senate amendment to the diplomatic appropriation bill, to initiate in a modest way a new policy with respect to the housing of American Ambassadors. The bill as reported to the Senate contained an item of \$40,000 for the purchase or the construction, including the furnishing, of an embassy building at Paris. As it could fairly be construed as general legislation, it was ruled out on a point of order, made by Senator Culberson, who thought so important an innovation should not be embodied in an appropriation bill, nor adopted without adequate discussion.

In the course of an hour's debate on the proposition, practically no opposition was expressed to the plan of providing suitable buildings for our representatives abroad. It was admitted frankly by its proponents that the amendment was intended to begin a new policy. Senator Lodge said the Committee on Foreign Relations thought it was wiser to enter on the policy by buying one house at a time as favorable opportunity offered than by appropriating several million dollars and making general purchases all over the world. In defense of the new policy, Senator Lodge said:

"Having given our ambassadors no increase of salary and thrown upon them a great increase of expense, we find ourselves in the fact that, in order that the United States should have proper representation in those great capitals, we must either increase the salary or add to the salary by giving them house rent or confine these appointments to men of moderate means. It has come down to us in confining these appointments to men of moderate means in almost all instances."

"It is impossible, practically, for an ambassador to live in a small apartment in Paris or Berlin and transact the business of the government of the United States as it ought to be transacted. The demands do not come simply from the court or the society in which he finds himself, but the demands made by his own people are very great, indeed. They expect certain pomp and reception to be held on Washington's Birthday and on the Fourth of July; they expect hospitality from the ambassador. The number of Americans who go to these great capitals in Europe is very large; it is said that there are 20,000 Americans normally in London alone, and an ambassador can not escape the expenditure of a large amount of money. He has a constant pressure upon him, and a man who desires to represent his country properly is inevitably embarked in a course of expenditure which, if he is a poor man, will take probably what little property he may have."

"If we give to our ambassadors rent, in addition to the salary they already have, it would certainly make living much easier for them; also it would give to the United States a definite place in the city; it would establish what I consider a proper scale, because it is not merely that an ambassador is forced, if he is a poor man, to live below the scale, but he would like to live below the scale, because I have in mind where men of great wealth have taken houses and established a scale of living which puts the successor in a position of great embarrassment. At least we should secure that our successive American ambassadors to any one country should live in the same house and should maintain substantially the same scale."

This puts the case fairly and strongly on the ground not only of our obligation to foreign countries, but also of our duty to our own citizens. If we are to maintain embassies at all, it becomes us to maintain them on a decent and uniform scale, not alternating from magnificence to penury, the occupants of a palace being succeeded by the denizens of a flat. Moreover, the duties of the ambassador require that he shall have suitable offices as well as living quarters; and as Senator Bacon well said, it is beneath the dignity of a great nation to house its officers in insignificant quarters. An embassy is something more than the residence of the ambassador; it is also a public building, answering a public need.

There appears, therefore, just as good reason for the provision of embassy buildings as there is for the erection of post-offices and custom-houses.

Until proper provision is made for the housing of our ambassadors and for the necessary expenditures of entertaining, we shall lie under the accusation, peculiarly obnoxious in a democratic country, that only millionaires can afford to accept appointments to the higher places in the diplomatic service. Every one is familiar with the splendor which characterizes the hospitality of our representatives at London and Berlin. Our ambassador at Paris has expended \$30,000 in repairing the building now occupied by him, and while in Rome expended \$20,000 on the building he rented there. These sums are, or will be, a total loss to him. To such men it makes little difference what provision our government makes; they are able to keep up what state they please. But to those who come after, especially if they are not endowed with wealth, the situation is humiliating and embarrassing. We should at least endeavor to provide a practically equivalent footing, established on a moderate and reasonable scale of expenditure, and provide dignified and convenient and commodious quarters, that will suffice alike for the rich ambassador and the one without riches. If unwilling to do that, we should abolish the ambassadorial rank, which necessarily requires a heavier diplomatic expenditure.

Mr. Wu Ting-fang says he will live to be 200 years old. We feared as much.

## George Bernard Shaw.

No knocks from us for one George Bernard Shaw. Mr. Shaw is a genius of the first water—he says so, and we freely admit it. He is the one man in all this world of whom we feel it may be truly said, age cannot wither him nor custom stale his infinite variety!

Mr. Shaw is an author; he writes extremely clever stuff. If there is any cleverer, in his line, we haven't seen it; nor do we know that we should be quite up to it if we did. Recently he received from the publishers of Collier's a "cash bonus"—a vulgar "prize," as it were—of \$1,000, in addition to the price of one of his stories, as a sort of award for superior excellence among a large number of other stories submitted during a certain length of time. Collier's has been awarding these bonuses for several years, and the tender to Mr. Shaw was quite in line with an established custom.

Here is Mr. Shaw's reply, returning the filthy lucre:

"Dear Sir: What do you mean by this unspeakable outrage? You send me a cheque for a thousand dollars, and inform me that it is a bonus offered by Messrs. P. F. Collier & Son for the best story received during the quarter in which my contribution appeared. May I ask what Messrs. P. F. Collier & Son expected my story to be? If it were not the best they could get for the price they were prepared to pay, they had no right to insert it at all. If it was the best, what right have they to stamp their other contributors' publicly as inferior when they have taken steps to secure the result beforehand by paying a special price to a special writer? And what right have they to assume that I want to be said to be one of the best, or that I am in the habit of accepting bonuses and competing for prizes?"

"Waiting all these questions for a moment, I have another one to put to you. How do Messrs. P. F. Collier & Son know that my story was the best they received during the quarter? Are they posterity? Are they the verdict of history? Have they even the very doubtful qualification of being professional critics?"

"I had better break this letter off, lest I should be betrayed into expressing myself as strongly as I feel. I return the cheque. If you should see fit to use it for the purpose of erecting a tombstone to Messrs. P. F. Collier & Son, I shall be happy to contribute the epitaph, in which I shall do my best to do justice to their monstrous presumption."

"Yours faithfully," G. BERNARD SHAW.

What was the result? The story got out—just as Mr. Shaw intended it should. The newspapers exploited it—just as Mr. Shaw intended they should. It caused, first, a gasp of astonishment for its very audacity, then a loud guffaw—just as Mr. Shaw intended it should. It once more set everybody talking of George Bernard Shaw, just as George Bernard intended it should. And the outlay of advertising is cheap—dirt cheap—at the price paid by Mr. Shaw, viz., \$1,000!

That's why we admit Shaw to be a genius. It takes a genius to get blood out of a turnip; to get something for nothing; to turn thousands of dollars' worth of advertising for one thousand dollars never really earned. And this Irishman is a genius—one of the greatest at large in this world.

Senator Tillman's interview on the recent Cosmopolitan Society dinner in New York indicates clearly that his vocabulary is as strong as ever, no matter what may be said of his physical condition.

Senator Bailey vindicated. After one of the fiercest political fights ever known in the Lone Star State—and that is saying a great deal—Senator Joseph Weldon Bailey has won out, and stands vindicated. The verdict of Texas ought to be accepted as final and conclusive in this matter, and an instant end made to everything in the way of slander attaching to this man's good name.

It appears reasonable to conclude that the Senator in some of his personal affairs managed to lay himself somewhat liable to criticism. Things doubtless entirely innocent in themselves so happened nevertheless, in such wise that they might be distorted by his enemies to his great discomfort. Undoubtedly every turn that could be given these acts has been given them by the anti-Bailey contingent in Texas; it is impossible to suppose that any twist of the wrist has been overlooked. Texas, after listening to the pleadings pro and con, absolves Bailey of all intentional wrongdoing; clears his escutcheon, and of K's record. It cannot be denied that Texas had the matter laid before it in its entirety; the Lone Star State's verdict is delivered after a fair, open, exhaustive, and thorough trial. That should end it, for outsiders cannot possibly understand the case as Texas must understand it now.

Senator Bailey is one of the intellectual giants of the United States Senate. No body denies that. The Senate needs him; his party needs him. More than all that, the country needs him. We rejoice that he is vindicated; that his home people have given him the renewed endorsement and continued confidence.

"I am glad to say that I love each and every one of my fellow-men," says Mr. John D. Rockefeller, thereby carefully omitting Miss Ida Tarbell from the line-up of his friends.

"Be it said to 'Bob' Taylor's credit, he hasn't attempted any hair-raising, spread-eagle business. He prefers to get his bearings," says a Tennessee contemporary. Indeed, the Senator doesn't appear to have engaged extensively in anything in the hair-raising line of late years.

Senator "Jeff" Davis is his own bitterest enemy's best press agent.

A Keystone State paper says the "P. C." in Senator Knox's name stands for "Pennsylvania's choice." Now if that "P." were only an "R." the com-

mination might be said to stand for "Roosevelt's choice." Then, indeed, there might be something odd.

"What has become of 'Pete,' the White House bulldog?" inquires the Punnett-Spirit. Why not let sleeping bulldogs lie?

And now a cabal of Englishwomen of rank has been organized to fight the social aggressions of American female importations. The English are pretty smart in one respect; they know how to make our titled heiresses spend their money, once those dear creatures do get into the upper ten across the pond.

Mme. Gould remarks that "the French aristocracy is the last storehouse of refinement, of which Americans are ignorant." Perhaps, if so, the lady may rest her soul in peace—we are decidedly of the opinion that ignorance is bliss in this case.

"The country wants a President who will do things," says the Birmingham Age-Herald. Well, what do you call fighting nature-fakers with one hand, malefactors of great wealth with the other, kicking Congress in the states with one foot, and planting the anti-race sunder's trousers, all at once?

A contemporary thinks "this country might go farther and fare worse than Hobson in 1912." Probably it might; but it's a cinch it won't.

A New York girl is to start a hummingbird ranch, according to the Springfield Union. Perhaps she might induce little "Jimmie" Hyde to come over and take the job of overseer of that establishment.

We note the recent wedding of Mr. William Rummage and Miss May Sale in Missouri. Of course, the church was packed. What woman could resist an announcement reading, "Rummage-Sale?"

The New York Mail says shirt waists will be "peekaboos" than ever this season. This should attract considerable attention.

The Kaiser entertains a very poor opinion of Helene as a poet. The Kaiser has indulged in a few poetic effusions himself. Wonder what Helene would think of them?

A Virginia woman has just given birth to her twenty-second child. If she isn't careful she may find herself a campaign issue before the summer is over.

"When things get dull in San Francisco, they try Abe Ruef again," says the Hartford Times. Still, Abe's trials, since the Schmitz decision, are hardly as annoying as Job's.

Let reports from Morocco indicate that Raisuli is still dead, but there are a number of precincts yet to be heard from.

A Pittsburgh woman, after thirty-five years of wedded bliss, wants a divorce from her husband, alleging that "he is very lazy." She must be able, if it took her thirty-five years to discover that falling in her spouse.

It is cautiously hinted that King Edward would make William Waldorf Astor a peer were it not for the fear that Astor in some way might offend this country. We think his majesty need not worry about that. We don't care. But it might raise a terrific kick in the House of Lords over there.

"Laura Jean Libbey has finished her last novel," says a critic. Perhaps; but let us hope for the sake of Gladys, Gwendoline, and Mayme that the critic merely meant to say "her latest."

Mr. Thomas E. Watson does not appear nearly so interested in his Presidential campaign these days as he does in handing out swats to the Hon. Hoke Smith's gubernatorial aspirations.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch writes interestingly of the "amazing" ball team of that city. Of course, this is a typographical error, "amusing" being the word intended.

John Sharp Williams' son is going to school in Texas. Mr. Williams evidently wants his boy to begin at the very bottom of things, and work up.

## BREAKING WITH BOSSES.

Gov. Hughes Defies Leaders of the Republican Organization.

Ithaca Correspondence of the New York Post.

The "boss" issue preceded Gov. Hughes to Ithaca, and it took but a few brief moments last night to demonstrate that the 2,000 people who crowded the hall were thoroughly alive to this issue. He said:

"On the one hand, you have government of the people, by the people, and for the people; on the other hand, you have government of the people, by the bosses, for the gamblers; and the applause that followed this comment indicated that this was the fashion in which the people of Ithaca viewed the present condition."

Gov. Hughes followed this with the most outspoken speech he has yet made, a speech which announced in very explicit terms his final break with the leaders of the Republican State organization. There was a new note in the governor's words. Not merely did he repeat his talk about the race-track issue, but he opened definitely a new campaign for direct nominations.

"You cannot hold up the people of this State," said he, emphatically; "and the defeat of one measure illustrates the need of the other, and the people of this State understand the direct-nominations issue better than they did five weeks ago."

"I ask the consent of no party to endeavor to enforce the constitution of this State, and I do not stand for that dictation which makes the elects officers of the State a puppet of a local leader. A party can succeed in this State only by supporting an administration which is devoted to the interests of the people."

Indirectly, he touched the famous Fassett-Cassidy message:

"Let there be no one who can say to an elected officer: 'You do this, because I tell you, or 'You do not do this,' and the 'not' brought a loud round of applause."

## In Little Old New York.

From the Buffalo Commercial.

What a great city New York is—what a population is constantly on the move there—was illustrated Saturday in the tally kept of the number of persons that passed through the doors of the Waldorf on that day. That even the proprietors were astonished when the count proved that over 19,000 went in through the eight entrances can be readily believed.

## The Rise of the Prune.

From the Chicago Tribune.

At last the patient and long-suffering prune, tired of being a butt of ridicule, has turned upon its tormentors by registering a crop shortage and jumping skyward in price. Here, then, the once-humble prune takes its place among the luxuries. If you want it henceforth, you will have to order it.

## How It Fights.

From the New York Times.

It was a ludicrous mistake to offer a sword to the head of the Standard Oil Company. Its favorite weapon is the rebate.

## Breakfast Food in Jeopardy.

From the Florida Times-Union.

But what has the pure-food law to say on the subject of preserving the forests?

## A LITTLE NONSENSE.

EASY.

'Tis time to write an ode to May. There's, I wit, A goodish lot For any bard To say.

The task is not a tiresome grind. Rhymes are not hard To find.

No need to cut it short, or pinch. Rhyme rhymes for May Are, poets say, A cinch.

May is a taking theme with bards. We could prolong This gurgling song For yards!

A Practical View.

"Took me two months to get an audience with the King."

"So?"

"Yes? seemed a waste of time, too, when I wasn't selling anything."

Handicapped.

"Why can't they write an American grand opera?"

"We have no peasantry to bring in as a chorus."

A Pleasant Topic.

"She's very aloof and austere, but I got her interested."

"How?"

"By asking her how she ever came to marry her dub of a husband."

Royal Woes.

The queen was in despair: Quite tragic was her frown. We didn't let her wear A "Merry Widow" crown.

Is This a Libel?

"What will happen when women get the ballot?"

"They'll easily answered."

"Well?"

"They won't want it."

A Question.

"Yes; this grand opera prima donna was commanded to sing by the emperor."

"Did it have any effect on her?"

Strong Characters.

"No man is utterly indifferent to the public."

"Oh, I don't know. Somebody has to wear the first straw hat of the season."

## NOTHING SERIOUS.

From the Philadelphia Press.

Only a Monologue.

Servant—You'll have to call again.

Collector—That's what you said yesterday.

Servant—But Mr. Skinner is too ill to talk to you to-day.

Collector—You needn't worry about that. I'll do all the talking.

When Something Comes of It.

Tess—These men who are forever trying to kiss a girl make me tired.

Jess—Me, too. There's nothing I admire so much as a successful man.

Suggestive.

"Gee whiz!" said George for the twentieth time, "it makes me mad every time I think of the \$10 I lost to-day. I actually feel as if I'd like to have somebody kick me."

"By the way, George," said the dear girl, dreamily, "don't you think you'd better speak to father this evening?"

Marital Persiflage.

"I must confess," remarked Mrs. Crabbe, "I don't believe there ever was a really perfect man."

"Well," replied Mr. Crabbe, "I suppose that's because Eve wasn't made first."

"How do you mean?"

"Well, if Eve had been made first, she would have bossed the job of making Adam."

Makes Talk.

Miss Gaddie—When it comes to gossip conversation, she's very interesting.

Miss Ascum—Why, she's not an interesting talker at all—

Miss Gaddie—Oh! I mean as a subject.

How He Got It.

"Had comp'ny for 'dinnah yist'day, Mah hubshan' stopped at Mr. Green's store Saturday ebenin' an' done got a fine spring chicken."

"Yass!" replied the jealous neighbor. "Dat Mah Green sho' is de most keerkless, unsuspicious 'man'!"

The Way for Two.

Though Love, they say, "will find the way."

There's one thing may delay it: The lover's mind is taxed to find The wherewithal to pay it.

## PERSONAL REFERENCES.

They Add Nothing to Force of Congressional Polemics.

From the Pathfinder.

In debating the naval bill Representative Willett had bad taste to speak of President Roosevelt's "facial contortions" when engaged in conversation, but the revised speech in the Record refers only to the Presidential "vehementness" which, it will be admitted, is not quite as expressive as much more to the credit of the Congressman's sense of propriety than his original statement. A public speaker in Congress or elsewhere rarely adds to the force of his argument by referring to the physical infirmity or the personal habits or manners of his opponent. The Senate will not soon forget that day several years ago when Senator Carey, of Wyoming, an advocate of the gold standard, in attacking the late Senator Wolcott, of Colorado, for his free silver notions sneeringly referred to his somewhat fastidious style of dress. Taking advantage of a full Senate and crowded gallery some days later the eloquent, brilliant, and caustic Colorado Senator held his Wyoming colleague up to ridicule for finding fault with a man because he occasionally changed his shirt, and after a few more telling blows of this kind said in a satirical, tired sort of way:

"But, Mr. President, in this controversy I am reminded of the old Spanish proverb, 'It's a waste of labor to shave an ass.'"

Mr. Carey, of Wyoming, was heard from no more on that subject, and no more would Mr. Willett probably be if President Roosevelt saw fit to reply to him in kind.

## Yielding to the Pressure.

From the Pittsburgh Dispatch.

Congress is making a show, at least, of complying with the President's requests for certain legislation. It may be inferred the discourtesy to the latest message was merely an effort to conceal the pressure of public opinion.

## Profitable Investment.

From the New Orleans Times-Democrat.

In a recent speech at Utica, N. Y., Secretary Cortelyou urged business men to take a greater interest in politics. Can it be possible that the next Republican campaign fund is to be placed on an interest-bearing basis?

## Self-made Wife-made.

From the Chicago News.

Many a man claims to be self-made, but what he is by his wife.

## CAPITOL GOSSIP.

Mr. Joseph Taylor Robinson represents the Sixth district of Arkansas in the House, and has had that honor for two previous Congresses, though he isn't as yet quite thirty-six years old.

His primary education was in the common schools, and the finishing touches were put on at the Arkansas University. He began the practice of law when twenty-three years old. Mr. Robinson served one term in the general assembly of Arkansas, which proved to be an incentive to higher and more extended ambition for experience as a national legislator. He was elected to the Fifty-eighth Congress and re-elected to the Fifty-ninth and Sixtieth Congresses with very little opposition.

Representative Robinson comes of good old Democratic stock, which fact precluded his early successes, so he thought. While a youngster attending Sunday school his teacher asked if he expected his prayers to be answered.

"No," said little Joe; "they will not."

"Why not?" asked the teacher.

"Because," replied Joe, "I am a Democrat, and so's me pap."

Representative Robinson is a member of the committees on Census and Public Lands.

Representative Macon, of Arkansas, bids fair to win away the title of Representative Mann as objector to "new legislation" in appropriation bills. During the consideration of most of the big budget measures Mr. Macon is to be found right on the job and there with the objections.

During the debate on the sundry civil bill—the one now before the House—Mr. Macon has vied with Mr. Mann and John Wesley Gaines, of Tennessee, as to the space his remarks shall occupy in the Congressional Record.

As Mr. Mann is chairman of the special committee investigating wood pulp and print paper prices, he has not so much time on the floor as either Mr. Macon or John Wesley Gaines.

The latter has not proved to be so much of an objector as a constructor. He has proposed several amendments and has asked many questions, but he has not opposed many of the provisions of the bill as yet.

When the bill is finished it is likely to be a close race between these three men, with much probability that Mr. Macon will lead and that John Wesley Gaines will be a close second.

Representative William Bill Sulzer, the original filibuster, is back in the House again after an absence of many days. This time the Hon. William Bill is just as much inclined to object as ever, and inclined to continue speaking as long as he wants, even when the gavel falls.

When Representative Townsend introduced his amendment recently calling for a larger appropriation for examinations for the Interstate Commerce Commission than the Appropriations Committee had allowed, William Bill was one of those on hand to help him along.

He spoke on the subject once, and kept on speaking, even after his five minutes or some one else's five minutes had expired—the amendment coming under the five-minute rule for debate.

The chairman of the Committee of the Whole kept hanging the gavel on the poor old green cloth of the Speaker's desk. The Hon. William Bill kept on talking manfully until he got through.

The Hon. William Bill had on a new Easter suit and he evidently didn't intend to permit any one to shut him up.